

Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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NUMBER 9



Dr. Wilke accompanying another handicapped participant in the Cathedral Procession at General Synod, Sunday, July 3, 1977.

Who Is Handicapped?

One tenth of all Americans are physically or mentally handicapped, yet few of these persons are active participants in the mainstream of community and church life. The Eleventh General Synod called for full participation of the handicapped in the life of the church, encouraged local congregations and other units of the United Church of Christ to employ handicapped persons, and instructed the Executive Council to initiate more emphatic and creative ministries with and to persons with handicaps and to their families.

"The unity of the family of God is handicapped," noted the official pronouncement, "where these brothers and sisters are treated as objects of condescending charity and derision." Dr. Harold Wilke, himself handicapped, now head of The Healing Community, a project aimed at helping churches to design ministries to all sorts of handicapped people, commented to the Synod that, far from costing too much, opening our churches to the handicapped in fact always pays!

Share the Gift This Stewardship Sunday

This month, congregations all across the country will be engaged in Christian Enlistment efforts to secure funds for the church's ministries. A theme often sounded will be Share the Gift. Two questions about this theme will be answered in a variety of ways. First, what is the gift? Second, how is it that we are to share this gift?

This gift, of course, is the gift of God's love in Christ. The Gospel of John notes, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son . . ." (John 3:16). This is the gift which we Christians are called upon to share, among ourselves and with the world: God's love. But how then shall we share it? In many ways, to be sure. By our words and by our deeds we can point beyond ourselves to the Source and Lover of all. John's Gospel also speaks to this quoting Jesus, "Feed my sheep" (John 21:17). That "feeding" includes whatever we may do on behalf of others. Not just "our kind" of others either, but all who hurt and are hungry, all who are deaf and blind, all who may be feeble and frail, poor and dispossessed, exploited and enslaved. And our feeding will include all manner of help, offered not patronizingly but as among equals.

So, "Share the Gift" as an individual member of the church by your support of your church's ministries and programs, by sharing your time and effort and money. And Share the Gift as a congregation of Christ's church, by your local outreach and ministry and by your participation in denominational and extra-denominational good works through Our Christian World Mission.

Across the country, Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, November 13. Materials to better enable your Christian Enlistment Campaign have been forwarded to each church. Especially helpful is the leaflet "How Much Shall I Give?" which challenges each member to a minimum contribution of \$1 per week for every \$1,000

[Continued on Page 2]

The Christmas Fund
With Eyes Wide Open!

FOR THE VETERANS OF THE CROSS
and THE EMERGENCY FUND

The Christmas Fund: Vote of Thanks

How do you say "thank you" for the years of dedicated service by pastors in the United Church of Christ? Through the Christmas Fund, of course! The Christmas Fund is an annual all-church offering sponsored by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ, the proceeds of which provide relief for hundreds of ministers and their families.

Through your contributions to The Christmas Fund, checks and Christmas greetings will be sent to the name of the church of Conference-nominated retired ministers in need. A portion of the Fund is also used to improve retirement benefits for qualified ministers on low pensions. A third portion of the proceeds is reserved in the Emergency Fund to be dispersed throughout the year for ministers who actively serve. Ministers and their families hurt by illness, accident, or other tragedy beyond their own resources,

[Continued on Page 5]

Resources For Church Growth

Have you been looking for some down-to-earth, pragmatic, sensible and easy to follow ideas on church growth? The Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, UCC, has what you are looking for. Tested in the field with excellent results, these resources are available in bound booklets and may be ordered in any quantity.

Offered are the following titles:

Church Membership Evangelism	\$1.00
A Ministry to Inactive Members	\$1.00
How to Find ... New Members	\$3.00
Jesus' Church	\$1.00

The postage is 25c per single book, or 35c for any combination of the above.

To place your order, write to: Martha B. Kriebel, Asst. to the Conference Minister, Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, UCC, Box G, 620 Main Street, Collegeville, PA 19426.

New Resources For Farmers and Business Owners

The Stewardship Council 1977 Fall Packet contains a variety of materials available for use with your church's Christian Enlistment. One new piece which was designed to meet a long-standing need is the little folder, "A Percentage of What? Guidelines for Farmers and for Owners of Businesses." This publication, free in any quantity, was prepared by the Stewardship Council with the help of a group of farmers and owners of businesses in Iowa and Minnesota. It will help persons in these two categories, who do not receive their income as regular wages or salaries, to plan their giving to the work of the church.

Also included in the Packet are samples of M Power theme materials for congregations in conferences which are engaged in that program, and materials on the theme "Share the Gift" for congregations which are not in the M Power program.

The Fall Packet, which should have reached your congregation's leaders in June, carries details and prices.

SHARE...

[From Page 1]

of annual income. For free copies of this leaflet, write to Stewardship Council, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

This Stewardship Sunday, let's Share the Gift!



KIBBIE SIMMONS STEELE ORDAINED

Kibbie Simmons Steele, a native of Atlanta, Georgia and a member of Central Congregational Church, UCC, Atlanta, Ga., was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on September 4, 1977 in her home church.

The ordained ministers present were invited to share in "the laying on of hands" during the ordination prayer by placing a hand on the head of Kibbie while extending a hand to members of the congregation, linking lay and clergy in this solemn moment.

Among the participants in the ordination

service were W.T. Scott, Jr., pastor of Central Church, James H. Lightbourne, Conference Minister of Southern Conference, Emilie Pitcock, former Minister of Christian Education of the Southeast Conference, and W.J. Andes, Conference Minister, Southeast Conference.

Kibbie is now an Associate Minister in the San Mateo Congregational Church, California, having graduated from Pacific School of Religion in June, 1977. She and her husband, Gary, and daughter now live in California.

Meeting on Mission Strategy Held

Rev. Henry W. Tuttle, pastor of Pilgrim Church, Birmingham, and SEC Minister, W.J. Andes, spent three days in September representing the Southeast Conference at the meeting of the Southern Regional Strategy Committee of the United Church of Christ in Dallas. This is a new experiment in cooperation among the Conferences of all the Southern United States and is an outgrowth of a need for communication felt at the last annual meeting of the Southern Region Consultation on Mission Priorities. There has been such a pronounced population shift into the Southern Rim in recent years, that concerned churchmen felt an urgent need to cooperate in enabling the

UCC to provide church homes in many southern areas where our church has not been historically active, as well as strengthening existing churches.

The major areas of discussion were "New Church Development; Emerging Social Issues; Leadership Training and UCC Identity, Evangelism and Church Growth." A tentative covenant was agreed upon which will be carried back to each Conference for approval. All Southern Conferences were represented by their Conference Ministers, Moderators or Vice Moderators. Representatives of appropriate national boards were also part of the consultation.

Youth Core Committee Meets

The ten committee persons selected at the Youth Caucus last June, to lay plans for continuing the 1977 Youth Core Training into 1978, met in Atlanta on Saturday, Sept. 24.

Attending were Greg Clemons, Faya Donaldson, Priscilla Garrett, Brenda Green, Linda Hankins, Howard Jason, Malbro Roberts, Ann Simmons, and Trudi Sanford. Brenda Gorrell, BHM, met with the group.

The Committee carefully studied the facts about what the Youth Core is like now, what the limitations are, what wants and needs exist, and what is lacking. From these considerations accomplishable goals were set. The two goals with priority were Youth Core Training Workshops to be continued and Communication of Youth Happenings in **SOUTHEAST NEWS**.

Leadership will be provided by Miss Brenda Gorrell, Board of Homeland Ministries. Brenda's intent is to use selected Youth Core members from past training to do part of the training of new Youth Core members, thus increasing their skills and ability. She will support and evaluate with them. Bible study and resources will be included, along with laboratory experience through making plans for leading youth at home churches — with evaluation after the experience — to constitute parts of the training.

Guidelines were set up which will be made available to churches throughout the Conference, when recruitment begins in December.

Youth of high school age will again enter into a covenant agreement relative to amount of time to be committed with the local church and the SEC.

The three Youth Core Training weekends will begin in February 1978.

This intensive and developmental training for youth leadership is a response to the need that churches have, to hold and empower youth.

"YOUTH MAGAZINE"

A WINNER

An excellent resource for youth and youth groups is "Youth Magazine," an award winning publication of the United Church of Christ. Published monthly, each issue contains provocative stories about faith and lifestyles written in language and with a format attractive to youth. Comics and contests in which youth can participate also enhance the magazine. Subscription information can be secured by writing to "Youth Magazine," 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.



A TYPICAL BOOTH AT THE OAK GROVE COUNTRY FAIR

Ala.-Tenn. Youth Plan "Pop-In" Oak Grove Holds Country Fair

The youth of the Alabama-Tennessee Association will kick-off their 1977-78 program with a "Fall Pop-In" to be held at Huntsville UCC November 11-13.

What's a "Pop-In" you ask? Coined by the youth of the Birmingham Pilgrim Church, a "Pop-In" is exactly that: youth from our Association churches "popping-in" on one of our local churches for a weekend of fellowship and fun.

While weekend "Mini-Camps" are reserved for more in-depth religious education, "Pop-ins" are times for building friendships over the vast expanse of territory covered by the Ala.-Tenn. Association.

Knoxville to Practice "Tree-ology"

Knoxville Church of the Savior will practice "Tree-ology" from October through the end of this year. In an effort to add foliage to the hill on which the church is built, each family in the church is encouraged to tag a young tree on one part of the church's property to be transplanted later this fall. Working with a carefully laid out design, other families not up to transplanting trees can participate by planting and maintaining garden plots around the church. During Christmas time every home will be encouraged to buy a live Christmas tree to later be planted at the church. Such an effort makes the members of the Knoxville Church true "tree-ologians"!

Oak Grove UCC, Pine Mountain, Ga. held its fifth annual Oak Grove Country Fair this past August 20-21. Response to the fair keeps growing each year with some 7,000 in attendance this year.

Using grounds near the church which have been especially prepared for this event, craftsmen from all over the country are in attendance selling their crafts from colorful booths. Typical of the crafts and craftsmen present were candle makers, woodcarvers, glass blowers, old coins, potted plants, Indian jewelry, macrame and many other items.

Booths occupied by churches offered bakegoods including cakes and pies, sandwiches and barbecue (said to be the best in the state of Georgia).

Proceeds from the Country Fair are set aside by the Oak Grove Church in a special Foundation. Foundation funds are used either for benevolence purposes — helping families or churches in need; or for educational purposes — funding ministerial scholarships for SEC ministers enrolled in the Southeast Conference Continuing Education Program.

Organized and run by members of the Oak Grove Church, the Oak Grove Country Fair is an outstanding example of one of the many ways a church can help those in need as it so serves its community.

In the latter part of next summer, should you be in the Oak Grove-Pine Mountain area, you have a standing invitation to visit the Country Fair and the church which has made it possible.

NORTH ALABAMA ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW PASTOR-AT-LARGE



Rev. Roy Bain [left], Moderator of the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association. Mr. George Washington [right], Moderator of the North Alabama Association.

Dr. Guy L. Colbert, for many years pastor-at-large and scribe of the North Alabama Association, requested that the Association not elect him to that position because of his retirement and ill health. The Association responded by electing him "Pastor-at-Large Emeritus."

The Association then elected Warren A. Blankenhorn to be the pastor-at-large.

The North Alabama Association met October 1, 1977 at the Arley Congregational Christian Church. The church has a historical marker in front of the building which reads:

"Former site of Smith School House. Named for Uncle Harve Smith, patriarch of the Smith family in this community. Built in 1911 on two acres of land bought for \$5.00. Seat of learning of readin', ritin', and arithmetic until 1923 when it was consolidated with others to form Meek School. First teacher was Jesse G. Davis, the last teacher was Miss Lollie Young. From the beginning the school house also served as a church. Here the children learned the Ten Commandments and residents of the area have been inspired by good singin', good preachin', praisin' of the Lord, and the oldtime religion."

Officers elected were George Washington, Steele, Ala., as moderator and Leighton Wilson of Town Creek as Vice Moderator.

Dr. W.W. Snyder, Executive Director of the Elon Home for Children, Elon College, described the care given by the Elon Home

to children who come from broken and disjuncted homes. Dr. Snyder also preached at the Caddo Church, Trinity, Alabama, on Sunday, October 2.

Warren Blankenhorn spoke on "The Work of the Minister" and W.J. Andes presented materials and methods which could help churches.

Each church reported on "What's the good news from:"

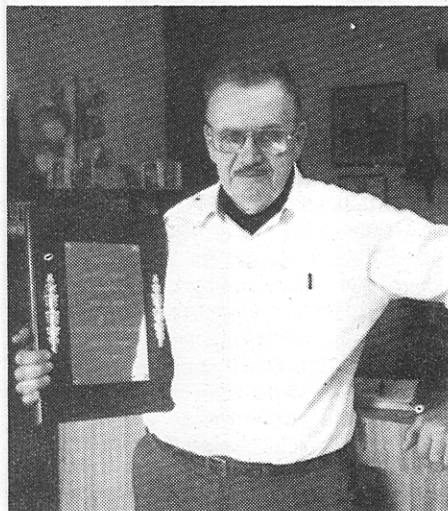
Arley: Church building is being renovated, new roof, new ceiling, new lights, rest rooms added at front of building, brick veneer added, property lines surveyed; a good revival; Robert Partridge is the pastor.

Caddo: Good attendance; redecorating Church sanctuary, young people helping in church activities and ministering to community needs. Ernest Shelton is the pastor.

Hackleburg, Fairview: Growth is slow, two new members; building was air conditioned; good revival. Bobby Aderholt is the pastor.

Haleyville, Union Grove: Not setting the woods on fire, one new member, young people busy, organized young adult class; cushions added to pews, raised \$1650 in two weeks. New pastor is George Dobbins of Haleyville.

Hanceville, Mountain Grove: Community problems can disturb the church, but
[Continued on Page 8]



Dr. Guy L. Colbert, Pastor-at-Large Emeritus of the N. Alabama Association



REV. COLLIE SEYMOUR

Ala.-Tenn. Association Holds Annual Meeting

The Alabama-Tennessee Association held its Annual Meeting at Belvidere UCC, Belvidere, Tennessee on Saturday September 17. Elected as Moderator of the Association was Rev. Collie Seymour, pastor of the Belvidere church.

In addition to regular business the delegates participated in a number of special presentations. Phemie Young reported on the 1977 General Synod which she attended as a delegate for the SEC; Mark Frey and Randy Gehres sensitized the Association, through a slide show, to the needs and the programs of the Morgan-Scott Project; Marion Cameron, Chairperson of the SEC Commission on Christian Education, outlined the progress of the new CE:SA curriculum; and Lee Gables and David Beebe led a unique exploration in worship. Pictures, bulletins and the sanctuary floor plan of each church were posted on newsprint around Belvidere's sanctuary, giving the Association a real "feel" for the churches of which it is composed.

Prior to a bountiful lunch, prepared by the women of the Belvidere Church, the youth of the Association met in a special Youth Caucus where they discussed and polished plans for events and programs for Association youth beginning this November and continuing through the spring of 1978.

Having served for two terms as Moderator of the Association, Ms. Yubenia Prigmore was sincerely thanked for her dedicated service.

Close to 90 people were in attendance.

Church Members Urged to Register Opinion on Show

The Eleventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopted a pronouncement on "The Use of Gratuitous Violence and the Exploitation of Sex in Television Programming."

The pronouncement was recommended to the General Synod by the Office of Communication, which takes an active interest in television programming.

The UCC Office of Communication has joined with other major religious bodies, including representatives of the Southern Baptist, to protest the showing of a new series, "Soap" by ABC-TV at 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

The religious groups oppose the broadcasting of this new show in general because of its content and in particular because it will be shown at a time when many children are still watching television.

According to religious leaders who have had the opportunity to evaluate one or more of the programs and have information on plans for the series, "Soap" is a situation comedy preoccupied with sex.

The Rev. Everett C. Parker, director of the Office of Communication, who attended a screening of a segment of the show, stated he found it "a cheap shot show and a crashing bore. It will get an audience because of its salacious appeal and it will be seen by millions of children because it's in prime time.

In recent weeks numerous articles about the show and the opposition to it by church groups have appeared in the media.

UCC local church members are urged to view the show and to write to the television station carrying the program in their area expressing their opinion of the show and whether it should be continued.

It is anticipated that most church members will protest the show, but they are urged to register their opinion whether it is pro or con.

Fund . . . [From Page 1]

receive practical help from the Emergency Fund.

Christmas Fund materials, including free posters, folders and offering envelopes, have already been forwarded to all churches.

As you remember the members of your own immediate family this Christmas, remember, too, the retired senior servants of our larger family, the church. Please give generously.



BONANZA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AROUND THE CONFERENCE: Meet Bonanza, UCC, Jonesboro, Ga.

From the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, from the Gulf of Mexico to the mountains of Kentucky, the Southeast Conference covers a broad expanse of territory. Contained within her boundaries are some 120 churches — widely dispersed — widely diverse in heritage and religious expression — and yet united in the conviction that the churches of Jesus Christ "may all be one."

The youngest church in the Conference — and one of the finest success stories for a new church start in the Southeast Conference — is Bonanza United Church of Christ, located near Atlanta in Jonesboro, Georgia.

Typical of all new church starts, Bonanza UCC began with only two "members", Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Carmack who arrived in Bonanza in September of 1966. Within two months Rev. Carmack, who is in his eleventh year of service as pastor of Bonanza, was joined by some 82 other persons in the church's first service of worship.

Meeting initially in an office building, the church next built and occupied a House-Chapel which served as the center of the church's life until 1974 when Bonanza's beautiful new sanctuary and educational facilities at 10879 Tara Boulevard were completed. At this juncture the church has some 184 active members and has received some 404 members since it was organized.

But beyond buildings and membership, the heart of Bonanza's story has been service to people and service to the community. Arriving at a time when the majority of Bonanza's homes were still under construction, Rev. Carmack understood his task as one of helping

people meet people. Through his leadership and the work of the church, Bonanza changed from simply a subdivision of homes into a real community.

And at the hub of that community was Bonanza United Church of Christ. The church organized the first scouting program for all age groups — a Civic Club to keep people informed about the community — a football league which was the first integrated team in the county. Through the church, a community swimming pool was built, a youth club was organized, a Lions Club was begun, a recreational facility was planned and the Bonanza Fire Department was constructed.

With some nine organizations using its facilities on a monthly basis, Bonanza United Church of Christ continues its excellent record of service to its community through service to God.



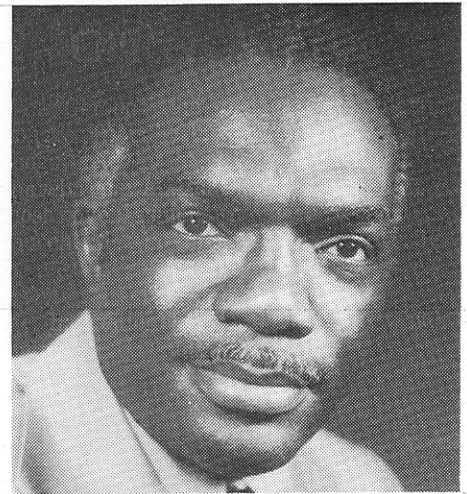
BONANZA CHURCH YOUNG PEOPLE

LOOKING AHEAD

November 13 — Stewardship Sunday
 November 14 — Exploring Worship Seminar, Lanett, AL
 November 18 — Exploring Worship Seminar, Cullman, St. John's Church and Chattanooga, Pilgrim Church
 November 20 — Thanksgiving Sunday
 November 24 — Thanksgiving
 November 27 — First Sunday in Advent
 December 4 — Installation of Avery D. Post as President of the United Church of Christ, Old First Church, Philadelphia, PA.

The following Conference events and meetings have been set for the month of November:

November 3-4 — Southern Regional Consultation on Mission Priorities, Holiday Inn, Atlanta Airport
 November 7 — United Church Appalachian Ministries, Black Mountain, N.C.
 November 8-9 — Outreach Commission of the Southeast Conference, Holiday Inn, Atlanta Airport



PRESIDENT LEONARD

New Fisk President Installed

Walter Jewell Leonard, former special assistant to the president of Harvard University, was inaugurated as Fisk University's ninth president on Thursday, October 6, 1977.

Fisk University, located in Nashville, Tennessee, was founded through the efforts of the American Missionary Association and is a recipient of the 1776 Achievement Fund Campaign.

With representatives from over 200 colleges and universities across the United States, the inauguration featured remarks from Mrs. Wilma Rudolph Eldridge, former Olympic champion and Derek Bok, President of Harvard University. Special awards were presented to Miss Cicely Tyson and Mr. Alex Haley.

Leonard was selected to become Fisk's fourth black president last October but did not move to Nashville until June of 1977. He succeeded Dr. James Lawson, who resigned in 1975 because of ill health.

Commenting on his new role as leader of Fisk, Leonard compared the school to a slightly damaged piece of art. "What the nation has in Fisk is a slightly damaged Rembrandt," Leonard said. "At present, all it needs is restoring and some reframing."

Chattanooga Pilgrim Officers Retreat

In October the officers of Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC in Chattanooga held a retreat for planning and church renewal. But they "retreated" in a most novel fashion: they went to another church! Meeting at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga, they were free to reflect on being a church without the distraction of the building in which their church is housed.

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Tennessee County Fair

The Cumberland County Fair drew huge crowds. It was a big success with many products on display and evidences of the creative skills of county residents. Community Church, Pleasant Hill, Tennessee, and its members did right well, too! Pastor Walter Hall got two blue ribbons for his pumpkin, one for its quality, another one for its size. It weighed 82½ pounds. (How many pumpkin pies will that one make?) Theodore Hedgecoth won a prize for his pumpkin, too. David Dodson won first prize for his honey and brother Jeff also won a prize for his honey. Jan and Brenda Dodson won blue ribbons for their homegrown grapes. The minister's family also fared well — Vaughan, with his animal photograph, John with his photograph, oil painting and bird house. And Peggy won prizes on five items: lined fur coat, pants suit, landscape photograph, peaches and squash pickles. Ala Mae Dodson won first prize on her blooming pot plant. Congratulations!

Midway

Congregational

Church News Briefs

The September through December birthday group was host at breakfast in September. This activity drew a large number of adults as well as youth to Sunday School which followed. Although it was a money-making project, the fellowship was great. Another birthday group has sold dinners on Saturday while a third is raffling a turkey. In the months ahead one Sunday each month will be known as "Congregation Day." For that day a member will volunteer to deliver the sermon. He will discuss how his daily activities or hobbies relate to being a Christian. In addition Dr. Eaton, minister, has asked for volunteers to read the Scripture and to offer prayer.

The choir recently bade farewell to Miss Sandra Roberts and Mrs. Pauli Crawford who left for Oberlin College and Oakland, California, respectively. At the same time they welcomed back Misses Catherine Baker and Lottie Devette, recent college graduates, who are now employed in the county.

In observance of Indian Sunday Regina Mullins and Andra Harris, acolytes, were attired as Indians. Mrs. Lillie Gillard, Clerk, read a tribute to Indians, and the choir rendered appropriate music.

A.G. Givens

New Organ at Blackwood Church

About 18 months ago a great desire was expressed for a new organ by some members of Blackwood Church, Headland, Alabama. In response, the church decided to set up an Organ Fund. By August of this year, funds were sufficient to install a new Baldwin organ. Marty Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. M.O. Johnson, is our organist. Marty, a college student, has studied music for several years and inspires us with his ability. The church has recently employed Rusty Ellis, a college student, as Music Director. Melanie Kennedy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn Kennedy, pianist, completes our group of music leaders.

Villa International Day

October 9, 1977

More than 1600 international visitors from more than 100 countries have lived in a special facility in Atlanta called Villa International Atlanta.

They were strangers when they arrived, often confused about language and the style of life in the United States. They left as friends — friends with the Americans they met, friends with each other, and especially friends with an institution of the Church that seemed serious about helping them with their problems.

Most of our visitors have dedicated themselves to the eradication of disease around the world. They are in Atlanta visiting the U.S. Center for Disease Control coordinating their efforts with ours in getting rid of the diseases that have so troubled mankind.

Many of our visitors are Christian. They are always pleased that the Christian community has welcomed them and made a special effort to assist them.

Many more of our visitors are not Christian. They are very interested that the Church has reached out to them. They ask questions and respond well to the visitors who come each evening from one of the Atlanta churches to be hosts in our building.

The financial support of the Churches in

Caddo Congregational Christian Church — Trinity Alabama

Seventy-seven has been a good year at Caddo. All age groups have been very busy at church, in the community and at home. We are very proud of our Youth Group who planned a number of special services for other people — our senior members, mothers of the church, fathers, graduates and the children. They also raised money for a trip to Opryland.

We had a real revival. Bobby Aderholt was our preacher. We enjoyed every service and the attendance was fine. Election time is over and our officers are ready for another year's work.

We are completely remodeling our auditorium.

Mrs. Eva Shelton

the Southeast Conference is critical in maintaining this outreach facility. The prayers and interest of each of you are of great assistance. Our visitors have enjoyed trips in our churches because congregations furnished housing and meals and Christian fellowship.

At Villa we are seeking to demonstrate God's love for all of His people and live out the sense of family which all of us share in Him.

by The Rev. Thomas T. Biggs
Executive Director

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Majoring in Youth and Goodness

Sunday, September 25, 1977, pastor George Fidler preached on the subject, "Youth, in Goodness, Leads the Way," at the Cullman, St. John's Church. In the bulletin were a list of thirty-three members of that church who are public school teachers, 1977-78, and also a picture of a young couple and their two children who are new members of the church.

The "Creative Prayer" that morning was:

"Help us, O God, to find our way as we strive to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, allowing goodness to be our foundation. Amen."

North Alabama . . .

[Continued from Page 4]

last Sunday, through the grace of God, four families shook hands. George Fidler is the pastor.

Houston, Liberty Hill : Good revival, no new members, some rededications; air conditioning added; out of debt. Lester Waid is the pastor.

Moulton, Jones Chapel: Six new members, fellowship hall built and paid for; good revival. Dick Waugh is the pastor.

Steele, Mount Lebanon: Holding on by their teeth, two new members in a good revival. Wayne DeWeese is the pastor.

Town Creek, Old Liberty: One person reclaimed for the Lord and one saved, helped several families in need, paid OCWM goal (\$450) in full. Braxton Parker is the new pastor.

Cullman, St. John's: Member of Alabama-Tennessee Association as well as North Alabama Association, 640 members on roll, 46 new members, 50 young people with Don Gletty as leader. George Fidler is the pastor.

Four laymen received in care of the Association to study for the ministry: J.T. Lowrey and Herschel Armor of Caddo Church; John Trussell and Ellis Cleghorn of the Arley Church.

North Alabama Association will meet with Jones Chapel, Moulton, Alabama, October 7, 1978.

DR. MUNSON VISITS ADIDOME

Dr. and Mrs. Munson of Pleasant Hill, Tennessee, arrived at Adidome, Ghana on March 9, 1977. They attended Church Services on the fifth day of their arrival. They were introduced to the Church Congregation by Dr. R.C. Braun. Dr. Braun told the congregation that Dr. Munson is a Surgical Specialist, working at Cumberland Clinic Foundation, Crossville, Tennessee, U.S.A., and had come to Ghana for a rest.

During Dr. Munson's short stay of three months, his surgical work at Adidome E.P. Church Hospital was a remarkable one. Instead of resting, he supervised many major operations. Both the resident doctors and the nurses learned a great deal from him. Patients at the doorway of death were healed.

On Wednesday, the 27th of May, 1977, the Church organized a send-off service for the Munsons. The chapel was full to the capacity and the various activities performed were recorded by Dr. Munson himself, e.g. melodious songs were rendered by the Middle School Choir, the Church Choir, the Bible Class, the Singing Band and the C.Y.B. The sermon of that

day was based on St. Luke 17:11-14. Jesus commanded the ten lepers to go and show themselves to the Lord of the Law and while on the way they were cured. In like manner Dr. Munson used his surgical blades and pairs of scissors on more than 300 patients and they were all healed, and went back home happily to their family and relatives.

At the farewell party organized by the hospital staff on the 3rd of June, 1977, presentations of a carved antelope wooded stool, a golden chain and two joromi dresses were made to Dr. and Mrs. Munson in appreciation of the remarkable work they had done. The Middle School Choir was in attendance, while speeches were made by Mr. C.K. Hama, Chairman of the E.P.C. Board for the Christian Healing Ministry, Mr. N.K. Kuadey — Business Manager of Adidome Hospital and Rev. V.N.Y. Ofori, pastor-in-charge who deputised for the Heads of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

In his speech, Mr. Hama analysed the qualities inherent in Dr. Munson by the letters of his name. He said Dr. Munson is

M - Meek
U - Upright
N - Noble
S - Serviceable
O - Orderly and
N - Neat.

Dr. and Mrs. Munson were asked to return to Ghana after the Brauns have gone home for good. He thanked the hospital staff and the Church for the nice gifts received.

Dr. Munson finally presented wrist watches to Messrs. Jonathan Doh and Christian Alornyeke for rendering twenty years devoted service at Adidome Hospital.

Rev. V.N.Y. Ofori
(District Pastor)
(from E.P. Church Newsletter, Ghana,
August, 1977)

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